



## ***Tagalis inornata cubensis* McAtee & Malloch (Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Reduviidae: Saicinae): First record from the continental United States**

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The New World genus *Tagalis* Stål is widely distributed in the tropics, being known from only three species: *T. seminigra* Champion from British Guiana, Panama, Peru, and Venezuela; *T. inornata* Stål from Brazil, Costa Rica, Cuba, Guatemala, Granada, Mexico, Panama, and Peru; and *T. femorata* Melo from Peru. McAtee & Malloch (1923) provided a key to the species known at the time separating *T. inornata* Stål into two subspecies, the nominate subspecies and *T. inornata cubensis*, from Cuba. Maldonado (1986) recorded *T. inornata cubensis* from Puerto Rico. More recently Melo (2008) described *T. femorata* and provided a key to the three species.

In this paper *Tagalis inornata cubensis* McAtee & Malloch is redescribed and illustrated, recorded for the first time from Florida, and the key to the Saicinae in America north of Mexico (Blinn 1994) is modified to incorporate *T. inornata cubensis*.

Acronyms used for collections cited in the paper are as follows: FSCA (Florida State Collection of Arthropods, Gainesville, Florida) and NCSU (North Carolina State University Insect Museum, Raleigh, North Carolina). The measurements are given in millimeters.

### ***Tagalis inornata cubensis* McAtee & Malloch**

(Figs. 1–4)

1923 *Tagalis inornata cubensis* McAtee & Malloch, 16: 253.

**Description:** (male). Total length 5.30. General color testaceous, except apex of first antennal segment, remaining antennal segments, subapical band on femora, subbasal band on tibiae, mark on lateral hind lobe of pronotum at humeral angle, scutellum spine, and metanotum spine fuscous (Fig. 1).

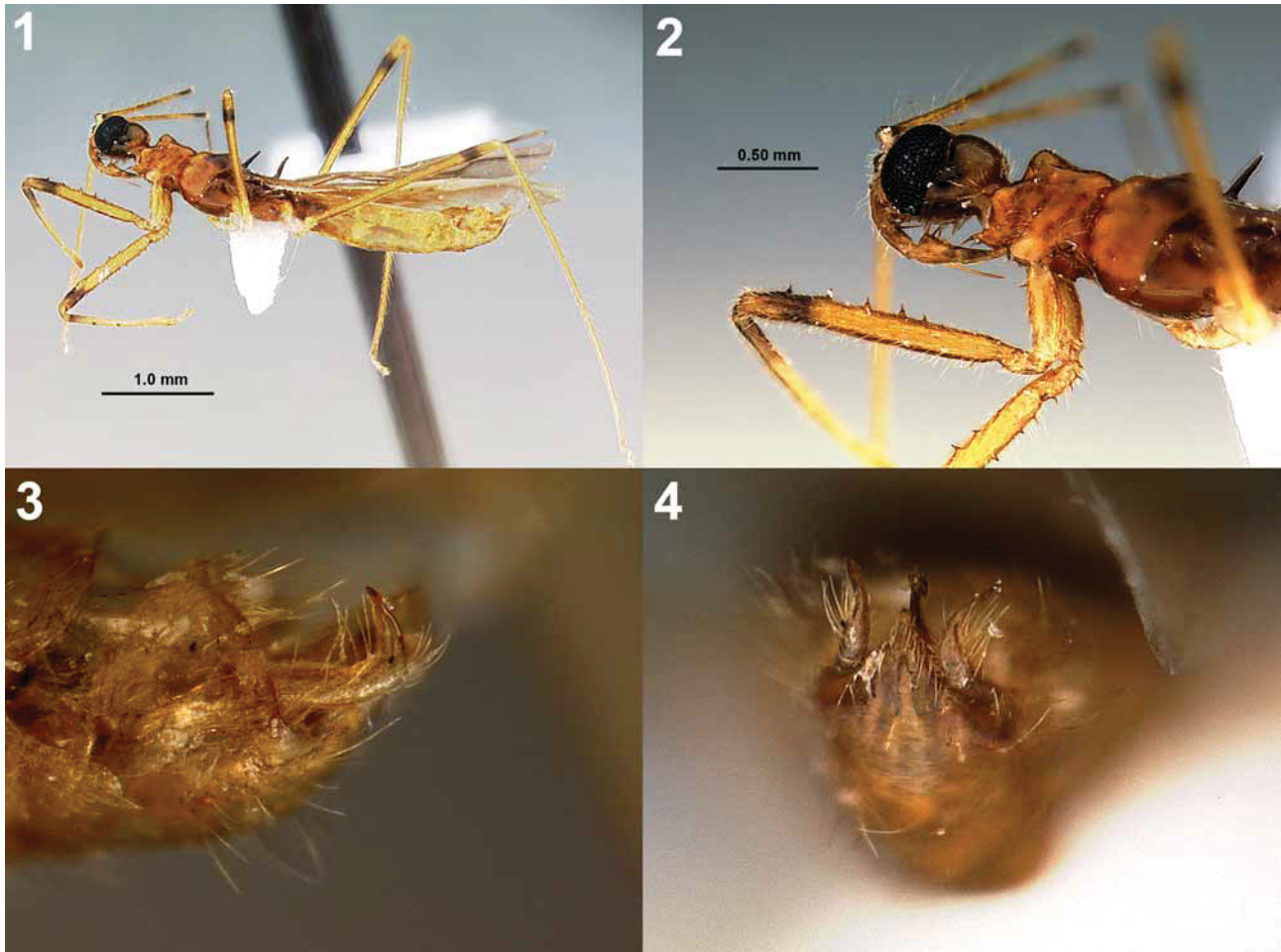
**Head.** Length: 0.70, width: 0.68, anterior lobe 0.39, posterior lobe 0.33, width of eye 0.28, vertex width 0.16. Posterior region globose with a longitudinal furrow more prominent posteriorly. Anterior margin, genae and gula each with a pair of setiferous tubercles. Rostrum: segment I, length 0.35; II, 0.27, swollen; III, 0.24. Segments I and II with a pair of setiferous tubercles and decumbent setae. Antenna: segment I, length 1.85; II, 1.16; III and IV, too deformed to measure; clothed with pale pilose setae, setae longer than width of segment, more prominent on antennal segment I.

**Thorax.** *Prothorax:* Divided by deep furrow between anterior and posterior lobes. Anterior lobe length, 0.52; width, 0.52; posterior lobe length, 0.52; width, 0.81. Anterior lateral process of pronotum rounded. Anterior lobe with paired prominent rounded anterior and less prominent posterior swellings, lateral area between anterior and posterior swellings raised and crescent shaped, posterior swellings nearly congruent leaving pit in between; disc of anterior lobe flat, lateral margins raised. Posterior lobe subtrapezoidal, lateral margins rounded. Prosternal process with a setiferous tubercle. *Mesothorax:* Scutellum with a long erect spine, post-scutellum with a short erect tubercle. *Metathorax:* Metanotum with a long erect spine. *Legs:* procoxa with one basal inner setiferous tubercle, two outer setiferous tubercles, one subbasal and one apical; protrochanter with four setiferous tubercles; profemur slightly swollen, with six setiferous tubercles increasing in size distally on inner surfaces and a row of small spines on ventral surface with one setiferous tubercle at base; protibia slightly curved and clavate distally, with three setiferous tubercles. Proleg clothed with abundant short decumbent setae and with long pilose setae, more abundant on profemur. Mid- and hind legs long and slender, femur slightly clavate, with abundant short decumbent setae, hind tibia with long pilose setae.

**Genitalia.** Pygophore median spine triangular not exceeding apices of parameres (Fig. 4); parameres slender, apical region curved strongly dorsad, apex acute (Fig. 3).

Female. Similar to male in structure and coloration. Total length: 5.60–5.70. **Head.** Length: 0.72–0.74, width: 0.61–0.65, anterior lobe 0.37, posterior lobe 0.30–0.32, width of eye 0.23–0.24, vertex width 0.14–0.15. Rostrum: segment I, 0.38–0.39; II, 0.25–0.28; III, 0.25–0.26. Antenna: segment I, 1.68–1.73; II, 1.08–1.14; III, 0.86–0.89; IV, 0.60–0.63; lacking pilose setae. **Pronotum.** Anterior lobe length, 0.54; width, 0.52–0.54; posterior lobe length, 0.54–0.57; width, 0.86–0.90.

**Material examined.** 1 ♂: Florida; Dade Co., Kendall, suction trap, 2-IV-2004, G. Myres coll., FSCA # E2004-2395 [FSCA] and 2 ♀: Florida; Indian River Co., Vero Beach, 90<sup>th</sup> Avenue; 4-II-2004; in leaf litter under fallen Sabal palm frond; Ken Hibbard, coll.; FSCA #E2004-838 [FSCA, NCSU].



**FIGURE 1–4.** *Tagalis inornata cubensis*: (1) general habitus, lateral view, Morphbank ID #462523; (2) lateral view of head and thorax, Morphbank ID #462522; (3) pygophore and parameres, lateral view, Morphbank ID #462524; (4) pygophore and parameres, caudal view, Morphbank ID #462526.

#### Key to the species of Saicinae in America North of Mexico

1. Pronotum armed with spines near humeral angles, scutellum with spine erect..... 2
- Pronotum unarmed at humeral angles, scutellum with spine strongly erect or reclined ..... 4
2. Process of male hypopygium with a single erect spine, posterior margin of abdominal sternum VII in females sloping ventrocephalad, antennal segment II subequal to one-third length of antennal segment I ..... *Pseudosaica florida* (Barber)
- Process of male hypopygium bifurcate, posterior margin of abdominal sternum VII in females vertical to subvertical, antennal segment II subequal to one-half length of antennal segment I..... 3

3. Forewing with two closed cells, general coloration yellowish brown, females may be micropterous ..... *Saica elkinsi* Blinn
- Forewing with 3 closed cells, general coloration red, brachyptery unknown in females ..... *Saica apicalis* Osborn & Drake
4. Protibiae with one, protibiae with two series of stout spines or setiferous tubercles, scutellum with spine erect ..... *Tagalis inornata cubensis* McAtee & Malloch
- Fore tibiae and femora without stout spines or setiferous tubercles, scutellum with spine reclined ..... 5
5. Dorsum with a broad fuscous stripe extending along midline, antennae and legs densely pilose ..... *Oncerothelus acuminatus* (Say)
- Dorsum uniformly pale yellow, antennae and legs without dense pilosity ..... *Oncerothelus pallidus* Barber

## References

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